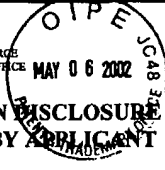


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Form PTO-1449				Complete if Known	
US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				Application Number	09/977,567
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date	October 15, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Toshikazu HIROTA
				Art Unit	1743
				Examiner Name	Not Assigned
				Confirmation No.	2012
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	791 167

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract
BB	AA	59178258 A	10/9/1984	Japan				✓
BB	AB	03101960 A	4/26/1991	Japan				✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS  
(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)


Examiner:	<i>J-PH</i>	Date Considered:	5/12/04
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.